

## DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE WASHINGTON, DC

0 3 OCT 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/FOA/DRU

FROM: SAF/AQC

1060 Air Force Pentagon Washington DC 20330-1060

SUBJECT: Air Force Observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month and

Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Week

In Fiscal Year 2001, the Air Force led the Services in purchasing JWOD products and services, spending \$119.7 million in support of the JWOD Program. The Air Force remains fully committed to supporting the JWOD Program, through which people who are blind or severely disabled are able to achieve productive employment, and the Air Force is able to obtain quality goods and services.

As stated in the Director of Defense Procurement's 19 Sep 02 Memorandum (see Attachment), Americans with disabilities "possess talents and abilities that should not go untapped." In the services area, JWOD capabilities are expanding to include document processing, call center operation, warehousing and distribution, and CD-ROM replication. Contracting activities should always consider JWOD as a source for products and services (for a listing of mandatory items, go to the JWOD website at <a href="www.jwod.gov">www.jwod.gov</a>), and encourage prime contractors to use JWOD resources in achieving small business subcontracting goals.

I strongly encourage you to take full advantage of the JWOD Program, and to maximize employment opportunities for Americans who are blind or have other severe disabilities. Increased awareness of the contributions that can be made by this underutilized population, not only during the month of October but throughout the year, will result in mutual benefit to those hard-working citizens and to the accomplishment of the Air Force mission. Questions re: the JWOD program may be addressed to Ms. Kathleen James, SAF/AQCK, (703) 588-7012, DSN 425-7012, email: kathleen.james@pentagon.af.mil.

CHARLÎE E. WILLIAMS, JR.

Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary (Contracting)

Assistant Secretary (Acquisition)

Attachment:

19 Sep 02 OUSD/AT&L (DP/CPA) Memo